

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A digital camera comprising:
 - a imaging system that detects light and generates a digital image representative of the detected light;
 - a memory that stores images generated by the imaging system;
 - a user interface for receiving instructions from a user, including a transfer instruction to transmit one or more selected digital images to a selected address;
 - a wireless radio frequency transceiver for establishing data communication with a cellular device having a compatible wireless radio frequency transceiver by transmitting and receiving radio frequency signals;
 - a transfer logic that, in response to the transfer instruction, causes the radio frequency transceiver to transmit one or more selected digital images to a cellular device and to transmit connection instructions that cause the cellular device to establish communication with a network and to transmit the one or more selected digital images to the selected address; and
 - a microprocessor for controlling the imaging system, the memory, the user interface, the radio frequency transceiver and the transfer logic, and for controlling data communications therebetween.
2. The digital camera as set forth in claim 1 wherein the transfer logic includes instructions for disconnecting communication with the cellular device when the images are transferred thereto.
3. The digital camera as set forth in claim 1 wherein the selected address includes a plurality of addresses.
4. The digital camera as set forth in claim 1 wherein the wireless radio frequency transceiver operates according to IEEE 802.11 communications protocol.
5. The digital camera as set forth in claim 1 wherein the wireless radio frequency transceiver is a bluetooth transceiver.

6. The digital camera as set forth in claim 1 wherein the radio frequency transceiver is formed on a removable communications card.

7. The digital camera as set forth in claim 1 wherein the imaging system includes a charge coupled device.

8. The digital camera as set forth in claim 1 further includes a removable memory card for storing digital images.

9. The digital camera as set forth in claim 1 wherein the selected address is one or more email addresses.

10. In a digital camera, a method of transferring a digital image comprising the steps of:

receiving, from a user, an instruction to transfer a selected digital image to a selected destination address;

establishing a radio frequency communication with a proximity device;

transmitting the selected digital image and the selected destination address to the proximity device; and

transmitting transfer instructions to the proximity device causing the proximity device to establish wireless communication with a remote network and to transmit the selected digital image to the selected destination address via the remote network.

11. The method as set forth in claim 10 further including transmitting the selected digital image to a plurality of selected addresses.

12. The method as set forth in claim 10 further including, after the radio frequency communication is established, allowing the user to access information stored on the proximity device including an address book and selecting one or more addresses from the address book.

13. The method as set forth in claim 10 wherein the digital image is stored in a memory in the digital camera, the method further including deleting the digital image from the memory of the digital camera after the digital image is transmitted to the proximity device.

14. The method as set forth in claim 10 further including allowing the user to select one or more destination addresses from addresses stored on the proximity device.

15. The method as set forth in claim 10 further including providing a user interface allowing the user to select one or more digital images to be transferred and allowing the user to select one or more addresses to which the one or more digital images are to be transferred.

16. The method as set forth in claim 10 further including transmitting off-line instructions to the proximity device causing the proximity device to transmit the selected digital image to the remote network after the radio frequency communication between the digital camera and the proximity device is disconnected.

17. A digital camera comprising:
a memory for storing digital images;
a wireless short range radio frequency transceiver for communicating with a proximity device having a compatible wireless short range radio frequency transceiver;
a user interface allowing a user to select a transfer mode and select one or more digital images from the memory to be transferred, the user interface further allowing the user to select a destination address for the one or more digital images;
and
a transfer logic that, in response to the transfer mode being selected, generates transfer instructions causing the short range radio frequency transceiver to establish communication with a proximity device for transferring the selected one or more digital images to the proximity device for further transfer to the destination address.

18. The digital camera as set forth in claim 17 wherein the transfer instructions further include instructions transmitted to the proximity device causing the proximity device to establish a wireless network connection to a remote network and to transmit the one or more selected digital images to the destination address accessible by the remote network.

19. The digital camera as set forth in claim 18 wherein the proximity device is a cellular phone having a compatible wireless short range radio frequency transceiver configured to communicate with the digital camera, the cellular phone being capable of establishing the wireless network connection.

20. The digital camera as set forth in claim 17 wherein the wireless short range radio frequency transceiver is configured to operate according to one of IEEE 802.11 protocol and bluetooth protocol.

21. A system for transferring one or more data files from an electronic device to one or more destination addresses, the system comprising:

a transfer application for receiving one or more requests to transfer one or more data files;

a selection routine that, in response to a request to transfer, reads data from the electronic device and allows selection of one or more data files for transfer and allows selection of one or more destination addresses to be associated to the one or more data files; and

a transfer logic for causing the electronic device to transfer the one or more data files to a proximity device via radio frequency communications, the transfer logic including logic for instructing the proximity device to transfer the one or more data files to the one or more destination addresses.

22. The system as set forth in claim 21 wherein the electronic device is a digital camera.

23. The system as set forth in claim 21 wherein the electronic device is a personal data assistant.

24. The system as set forth in claim 21 wherein the proximity device is a telephone connected to a network via a cable.

25. The system as set forth in claim 21 wherein the proximity device is a cellular device.

26. The system as set forth in claim 21 wherein the transfer logic is formed as software, hardware, or a combination of both.

27. The system as set forth in claim 21 wherein the one or more destination addresses include addresses accessible over a network.

28. The system as set forth in claim 21 further including a radio frequency transceiver for communicating with the proximity device.